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# KOINONIA

*“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship (Koinonia) of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”*

2 Corinthians 13:14

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**NORWIN ALLIANCE CHURCH**

**FEBRUARY 2016**

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“Being Led by An Unseen Hand” is a chapter in a Max Lucado book in which Lucado quotes from Frank Laubach. Laubach was a busy, dedicated missionary serving as translator and instructor of the Bible for various dialects in India. Laubach’s goal was to have “a continuous inner conversation with God in perfect responsiveness to His Will.” Here are some edited quotes from Frank Laubach as you live with the Lord minute by minute:

“Can we have contact with God all the time? Can we fall asleep in His arms and awaken in His presence? Can we think His thoughts all the time? I choose to make the rest of my life an adventure of answering this question.”

“This sense of being led by an unseen hand grows on me daily . . . I have tasted the thrill of fellowship with God which has made anything discordant with God disgusting. Good days are when I give my day in complete and continuous surrender to God . . . Nothing can go wrong except that God might be absent in my thoughts. When I surrender to God, I remember how I looked at people with a love God gave. People looked back and acted as if they wanted to go with me.”

Since Jesus enjoyed unbroken communion with God, He will help you and I to do the same. (Lucado edited). Enjoy the gift of this moment with Christ.



## **MEN’S DINNER**

**Friday, February 19, 2016**

**6:30 pm**

**Speaker: Rev. Blair Blakeslee**  
**Outdoorsman and Pastor at Corry CMA**

Please sign the sheet in the narthex by February 14th if you plan to attend.

If you have any “wild” game to share, please let the church office know.

If you are able/willing to help with set-up and tear-down, please sign the sheet in the narthex.

**LADIES** ~ help is needed in the kitchen (setting tables, cooking, serving, clean-up), if you are able, please sign the sheet in the narthex. Also, cakes will be needed. A sign-up sheet is available on the shelf. Foil pans will be made available in the kitchen for you to bake your cake in.

**THANK YOU** in advance for your help with this very popular dinner.

## **MISSIONS CONFERENCE**

**Saturday, February 27th**

**and**

**Sunday, February 28th**

### **SCHEDULE of EVENTS**

Sat.	11:00 am	Mission Presentation
	Noon	“Souper” Luncheon ~ soup, bread and cookies are needed. Please sign sheet in narthex.
Sun.	8:30 & 10:45	Worship with the Missionaries
	9:45 am	Sunday School with the Missionaries
	10:45 am	Children’s Church with one of the Missionaries

## CONGREGATION MEETING

**Sunday, January 24, 2016**

The Annual Congregation Meeting of the Norwin Alliance Church was held Sunday, January 24th. The meeting was held at 11:30 am.

With 62 members present, a quorum was met and the meeting was called to order.

Tellers were appointed and ballots distributed for the election of officers. Two names appeared on the ballot for the open Trustee position. With a tie present, Tim Booher graciously withdrew his name and Ed Radecki was elected to serve as Trustee for a 4-year term. The Officers for 2016 are as follows:

Ministry Board Secretary	Cindy
Church Treasurer	Terry
Assistant Treasurer	Roy
Elders –	Fred
3 year term	Joe
	Jeff
	Wes
	Frank
	Bill
	Bill
Trustee –	Ed
4 year term	
Board Member at Large	
1 year term	Harold
2 year term	Yvonne

Some needs Pastor Bob sees within Norwin Alliance Church is:

- Being in covenant relationships with one another
- New outreach ideas
- Missions ~ would like to see a short-term missions trip in the future and to pray more for our missionaries

Leadership reports were highlighted by the Lead Elder, Youth Director, DMC Director, Music Director, Lead Trustee, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer.

- A question arose concerning outreach events ~ it was stated that the purpose of our outreaches is not to “fill the pews” but to honor God and communicate who Jesus is through service, friendship, and gospel.
- It was reported that we finished 2015 under

budget. Praise God for the faithful giving and stewardship of our congregation.

- Money was given to Keen-Agers, through the Ministry Board, to help with their 2016 programming.
- The purchase of round tables for the F.H. was discussed. The Trustees will purchase a few to determine if they will work for us. Round tables will assist in fellowship at our dinners.
- “Are we lukewarm? Do we have a vision? What is NAC Church’s vision for North Huntingdon?” A new vision statement and plan outline is needed for NAC to reach out with the Gospel. An *Ephesians 3:20* prayer group will meet to seek the Lord for this.



The following items were discussed at the Elder and Ministry Board meetings in January:

1. Approved the youth to attend *Winter Jam 2016* at the Consol Energy Center.
2. Approved a Sunday School lesson on Communion.
3. Continuing to contact individuals for Deaconesses, Elders, and Deacons.
4. A Baptismal service will be scheduled for early March 2016.
5. Individuals were interviewed for church membership.
6. Trustee work done at the church:
  - A. A water leak was fixed in the Pastor’s study.
  - B. Additional rock salt for the walks was purchased.
  - C. Donna will perform custodial duties for the entire church.
7. Men’s Game Dinner is Feb. 19 with Blair Blakeslee.
8. Missions Conference is Feb. 27-28.

## VIGNETTES by VIRGINIA

February is a month to remember special days: Groundhog day; Lincoln's birthday; Washington's birthday; 2016 has an extra day - February 29th - for Leap Year; Ash Wednesday, thinking of time to celebrate Easter.

February 14 is Valentine's Day. Many of us use this day for celebration with remarkable people like our spouses, children, friends, co-workers. Possibly we have others to remember on February 14 even though they are just in our hearts and memories.

I Corinthians 13 reminds us of the best relationship we can discover and grow in spiritually. That is God's love for us.

A gentle reminder is found in some well-known hymns and songs. Read the words of **"Love Divine, All Love Excelling"** as follows:

*Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down. Fix in us Thy humble dwelling; All Thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, Thou art all compassion, Pure, unbounded love Thou art; visit us with Thy salvation; Enter every trembling heart.*

**"O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go"** states:

*O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my weary soul on Thee; I give Thee back the life I owe, That in Thine ocean depths its flow May richer, fuller be.*

The chorus of **"Love Led Him to Calvary"** are: Love led Him to Calvary, Seeking the lost, at the uttermost cost. Love led Him to Calvary.

A Friend I have, called Jesus, Whose love is strong and true; is part of the hymn: **"It's Just Like His Great Love"**.

The hymn **"Love Lifted Me"** reminds us that: Nothing else could help, Love Lifted Me.

The final hymn to mention this time is: **"He the Pearly Gates Will Open"** states:

Love Divine, so great and wondrous, Deep and mighty, pure, sublime! ! Coming from the heart of Jesus, Just the same thro tests of time. Verse three can be sung with these words: Love divine, so great and wondrous. All my sins He then forgave! I will sing His praise forever, For His blood, His power to save.

We can discover many songs that speak to our hearts. We need to think of the words, and music, to challenge and refresh our memories of the very best:



## KEEN-AGERS



Do you have the mid-winter blahs? If you are age 50 or over, please join us for our first Keen-Agers' meeting of the year on Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am. The lunch will consist Italian foods, salads and cherry pie ala mode. The program for February will be by the Norwin Resource Center.

People from other churches in the area attend, but we would love more of our own NAC people to attend. Why not start the New Year with us! We have some great programs scheduled for 2016.

Please contact Joe or Pat Beyer (Co-Presidents of the Keen-Agers) at 724-863-1441 or [annabelle1147@verizon.net](mailto:annabelle1147@verizon.net) if you have any questions.

If you didn't attend the December meeting, you missed out on the Christmas program and a catered lunch.

See you in February! !

### Respite Care

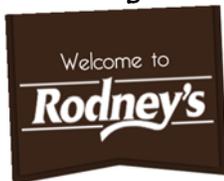
Do you need a break from caring for your loved one? Would you like to be able to go grocery shopping, the bank, or out to lunch without worry about leaving your loved one alone?

The Widow's Ministry Group would like to help. They will come sit with your loved one so you can get out.

Please contact the church office with your need. This will be passed on to the Widow's Ministry and someone from the group will contact you.



### Ladies Night Out



Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Rodney's Restaurant  
557 Wendel Rd., Irwin, PA  
6:00 pm

Location is subject to change.

Please sign the sheet in the narthex (by Sun., Feb. 7) and join the ladies for an evening of food and fellowship!

### Concert of Prayer

Sunday, February 28  
7:00 pm



### 2016 PRAYER CHAIN

New 2016 Prayer Chains are in the process of being put together.

What is the Prayer Chain and what does it do?

Those members and adherents of Norwin Alliance Church who wish to be prayer intercessors for the church family are placed on Deaconess' lists. When the intensive prayer chain is activated (for emergency or critical needs of our immediate church family), your Deaconess will call you for your prayers. This chain is also activated to inform of service closings. All other prayer requests are circulated through the Deaconesses and Elder for prayer.

Not all prayer requests go through the intensive prayer chain. As stated above, only emergency or critical needs of our immediate church family are placed on the intensive chain ~ unless the family specifically requests that the full chain be activated. Some prayer requests are of a personal nature and only the Elders and Deaconesses are contacted for prayers.

When calling in prayer requests, if you want the intensive prayer chain activated, please indicate this when calling. In the same manner, not all requests are printed on the Praise and Petition sheet. We try very hard to honor everyone's privacy. If you would like your request printed on the Praise and Petition sheet, please state this when calling in for prayer.

When called to prayer ~ pray as though the need was for a member of your own family ~ we are all a part of God's family.

**EVERYONE** who would like to be part of the Prayer Chain needs to submit your name and phone number to Judy Himler or the church office by **February 7th**. \*\*If your name is not received, you will not be put on a list\*\*

If you have any questions about the Prayer Chain, please contact Judy or Pastor Bob.



*Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

*1 Thessalonians 5:17*